

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, TSPA, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR SPECIALIZED BILATERAL AGREEMENTS: PARTICIPATION OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL IN DELEGATION VISITS

REF: A). MOSCOW 17794, B). STATE 222538

1. MFA ACTION TO REFUSE EMBASSY OFFICER HUGHES TRAVEL TO RESEARCH CENTERS (ON GROUNDS THAT THEY ARE "AREAS" CLOSED TO DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL) WHEN HE HAS BEEN NOMINATED FORMAL- LY AS A PARTICIPANT IN THE SATELLITE METEOROLOGY VISIT IS, IN THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEW, A VIOLATION OF THE SPIRIT OF THE JUNE 1973 GENERAL CULTURAL RELATIONS AGREEMENT, SPECIFICALLY OF ARTICLE I AS FOLLOWS:

1. THE PARTIES WILL ENCOURAGE AND DEVELOP CONTACTS, EX- CHANGES AND COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, EDUCATION AND CULTURE, AND IN OTHER FIELDS OF

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MUTUAL INTEREST ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY, MUTUAL BENEFIT

AND RECIPROCITY.

2. SUCH CONTACTS, EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE CONSTITUTION AND APPLICABLE LAWS AND

REGULATIONS OF THE RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES. WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK, THE PARTIES WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PROMOTE FAVORABLE CONDITIONS FOR THE FULFILLMENT OF THESE CONTACTS, EXCHANGES, AND COOPERATION.

2. SOVIET EMBASSY PERSONNEL HAVE ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS ACCOMPANIED DELEGATIONS TRAVELING IN THE US UNDER ONE OR ANOTHER OF THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. WHEN SUCH TRAVEL HAS TAKEN THEM TO CLOSED AREAS, THE DEPARTMENT HAS REQUIRED THAT A CLOSED AREA EXCEPTION BE REQUESTED BUT HAS, WITHOUT FAIL, GRANTED THE EXCEPTION.

3. IN SEEKING TO CLARIFY THE HUGHES SITUATION WITH THE MFA THE DEPARTMENT NOTES THAT THERE IS A COMPLICATING FACTOR. THE POST-MEETING VISITS IN QUESTION DO NOT COME UNDER THE US-USSR SPACE AGREEMENT (REFTEL B), ARE BEING PURSUED BY NOAA OFFICIALS FOR NOAA PURPOSES, AND ARE NOT CONNECTED DIRECTLY WITH THE SATELITE METEOROLOGY MEETING.

4. EVEN THOUGH THE VISITS ARE UNRELATED TO THE MEETING AND TO THE SPACE AGREEMENT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONCUR WITH EMBASSY'S SUGGESTED LINE OF ACTION, PER PARAGRAPH 3 OF REFTEL, WHICH WOULD INVOLVE INFORMING MFA (1) THEIR ACTION IS A VIOLATION OF THE SPIRIT OF ARTICLE I OF THE GENERAL CULTURAL RELATIONS AGREEMENT OF 1973 AND (2) IF THEIR DECISION IN THIS CASE IS NOT REVERSED, WE WILL IN THE FUTURE RETALIATE BY REVERSING OUR PAST POLICY AND RESTRICTING TRAVEL OF SOVIET EMBASSY PERSONNEL IN WASHINGTON WHEN ACCOMPANYING VISITING SOVIET DELEGATIONS UNDER THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. KISSINGER

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